

CLASSIFICATION RESTRICTED
 SECURITY INFORMATION
 CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
 INFORMATION FROM
 FOREIGN DOCUMENTS OR RADIO BROADCASTS

REPORT STAT

CD NO.

COUNTRY Czechoslovakia

SUBJECT Transportation - Rail, road
 Political - Organization.

HOW PUBLISHED Monthly periodical, daily newspaper

WHERE PUBLISHED Berlin, GDR, Zurich

DATE PUBLISHED Nov 1951, 14 Aug 1952

LANGUAGE German

DATE OF INFORMATION 1951, 1952

DATE DIST. 1/ Aug 1953

NO. OF PAGES 2

SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO.

THIS DOCUMENT CONTAINS INFORMATION AFFECTING THE NATIONAL DEFENSE OF THE UNITED STATES WITHIN THE MEANING OF ESPIONAGE ACT 80 U. S. C. 31 AND 32, 34 AND 35. ITS TRANSMISSION OR THE REVELATION OF ITS CONTENTS IN ANY MANNER TO AN UNAUTHORIZED PERSON IS PROHIBITED BY LAW. REPRODUCTION OF THIS FORM IS PROHIBITED.

THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

SOURCE Periodical and newspaper as indicated.

DEVELOPMENT, REORGANIZATION OF CZECHOSLOVAKIA'S
TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM

POSTWAR PROGRESS NOTED -- Berlin, Der Verkehr, Vol V, No 11, Nov 51

Despite heavy losses suffered during the German occupation Czechoslovak trains and busses have already surpassed the prewar performance level and in 1946, bus transportation exceeded its plan by 148 percent.

In 1937 the railroads of Czechoslovakia had 3,290 locomotives; of this number only 2,626 remained after the war and of almost 500,000 freight cars only half remained. All airplanes and almost all vessels of the inland water transport system were destroyed.

Transport investments during the Five-Year Plan (1949 - 1953) will amount to more than 45 billion Czechoslovak crowns. Rail freight transportation is to be increased by 1953 by 39 percent. Modernization of the railroad system includes reconstruction of railroad stations, electrification of main lines, and production of new passenger cars. At the beginning of the Five-Year Plan, Czechoslovak bus lines extended over 34,000 kilometers, and have been continually increasing. The current performance level of bus transportation is 200 times that of the prewar level. Trolley bus lines are being introduced in cities and the Five-Year Plan further provides for the reconstruction of 1,500 bridges. The 1953 transport plan provides for the transportation of 127 million tons of goods, or 32 percent more than in the previous year.

A milestone in the development of the Czechoslovak transportation system was the opening of the direct express-train connection with Moscow [date not given]. The cars of the through train are transferred at the Czechoslovak-Soviet border to broad-gauge chassis [sic. trucks?], thus eliminating changing of trains by passengers.

- 1 -

CLASSIFICATION		RESTRICTED									
STATE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NAVY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NSRB							
ARMY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	AIR	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	FBI							
DISTRIBUTION											

RESTRICTED

STAT

TRANSPORTATION MINISTRY REORGANIZED -- Zurich, Neue Zuercher Zeitung, 12, 14 Aug 52

As a result of the unsatisfactory performance, the Ministry of Transportation of the GDR has recently undergone some radical changes. Antonin Pospisil, the Minister of Transportation, a non-Communist, was relieved of the responsibility of administering the railroads and a special Ministry of Railroads was set up. The new Minister of Railroads is Josef Pospisil, a loyal party member. Subordinate to the Ministry of Railroads and all railroad lines and cable railways with the exception of city transportation systems. The National Enterprise of Czechoslovak State Railroads (CSD) has been dissolved and its property transferred to the Ministry of Railroads as of 1 August 1952. This ministry does not have a special commissariat for Slovakia, as other ministries previously organized, and thus this reorganization brings with it a curtailment of the Slovakian autonomy in favor of a more centralized Communist control from Prague.

The road, air, and water transportation systems remain subordinate to the Ministry of Transportation. Regional state enterprises are being organized for motor transport and for repair of motor vehicles. Regional state enterprises for highways are also being organized. For the direction, planning, and supervision of enterprises which conduct water transportation, a Main Administration for Czechoslovak Water Transport is being organized at the Ministry of Transportation. The ministry will also handle all matters pertaining to foreign transportation, and a special unit will be established to handle civil aviation. The aim of this reorganization is to relieve the politically unreliable Minister of Transportation of most of his responsibilities, however, for political expediency he retains his official position.

The administration of the railroads is no longer handled by the Directorate General but by a department within the new Ministry of Railroads. The national rail network, divided into six rail lines, has in recent years been considerably overloaded. The rapid development of the Czechoslovak railroads was hampered by the somewhat slower development of its organization as well as by a reluctance to accept certain innovations within the enterprise.

- E N D -

- 2 -

RESTRICTED